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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Seiji AOYAGI et al.
Int'l Application No.: PCT/JP02/12490
Application No.: NEW APPLICATION
Filed: September 24, 2004
For: MEDICAL TREATMENT SYSTEM AND PRODUCTION
METHOD THEREFOR

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(SUBMISSION CONCURRENT WITH THE
FILING OF A NEW PATENT APPLICATION)**

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
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September 24, 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on PTO-1449, attached hereto.

II. COPIES

- ☐ Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.
- ☒ This application is a National Phase of a PCT application. All of the documents listed on the PTO-1449 are not enclosed because they were cited in the International Search Report and copies should be forwarded from the International Search Authority. If copies are needed, please contact the undersigned.

- ☐ Because the present application is being filed after June 30, 2003, no copies of the U.S. patents or U.S. patent application publications which are listed on the attached Form 1449 are enclosed pursuant to the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i). Any foreign patent documents or non-patent literature listed on the attached Form 1449 are enclosed herewith.

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE
(check at least one box)

a. ☒ **DOCUMENTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

The attached patents, publications, or other information in the English language do not require a statement of relevancy.

b. ☒ **DOCUMENTS NOT IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications, or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:

Many of the documents have been discussed in the PCT Search Report, the PCT Preliminary Examination Report, and/or throughout the specification. The PCT Search Report and PCT Preliminary Examination Report, along with a German translation aid translating key terms into English, indicate the degree of relevance found by the PCT Office, thereby satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation. See MPEP 609(A)(3).

c. ☒ **ENGLISH LANGUAGE SEARCH REPORT**

An English language version of the search report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is attached, thereby satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation. See MPEP 609(A)(3).

d. ☒ **OTHER**

The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

International Search Report, International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT/IPEA/416 and PCT/IPEA/409), Written Opinion (PCT/IPEA/408), and Response to Written Opinion.

New PCT National Phase Application
Docket No. 9694D-000003/US

FEES

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the filing of a new patent application; therefore, no fee is required.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By: 
Donald J. Daley, Reg. No. 34,313

DJD/smk

P.O. Box 8910
Reston, Virginia 20195
(703) 668-8000

Enclosures: ☒ Form PTO-1449(s)
☒ Documents
☒ Foreign Search Report
☒ Other: Written Opinion & Response to Written Opinion

Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)		ATTY DOCKET NO. 9694D-000003/US		APPLICATION NO. NEW APPLICATION	
		APPLICANT(S) Seiji AOYAGI et al.		CONF. NO. Unknown #3	
		FILING DATE September 24, 2004		GROUP Unknown	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6,132,755	10/17/2000	EICHER et al.			
	5,629,008	05/13/1997	LEE			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	EP 0 659 406 A2	06/28/1995	EUROPE			Yes	
	JP 2001-259043 A	09/25/2001	JAPAN			Abst.	
	JP 08-141067 A	06/04/1996	JAPAN			Abst.	
	JP 06-151891 A	05/31/1994	JAPAN			Abst.	
	JP 09-219499 A	08/19/1997	JAPAN			Abst.	

OTHER DOCUMENTS	
(Include Name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.)	
	Geunbae LIM et al., "Future of active catheters", Sensors and Actuators A 56, 1996, Pgs. 113-121
	Khalil NAJAFE et al., "Strength Characterization of Silicon Microprobes in Neurophysiological Tissues", IEEE Transactions on Biomedical Engineering, Vol. 37, No. 5, Pgs. 474-481
	Kazunari OKA et al., "Fabrication of a Micro Needle for a Trace Blood Test", Transducers '01, 2001
	Philip A. STUPAR et al., "Silicon, Parylene, and Silicon/Parylene Micro-Needles for Strength and Toughness", Transducers '01, 2001
	D.V. MCALLISTER et al., "THREE-DIMENSIONAL HOLLOW MICRONEEDLE AND MICROTUBE ARRAYS"
	Lung-Jieh YANG et al., "PHOTO-PATTERNABLE GELATIN AS PROTECTION LAYERS IN SURFACE MICROMACHININGS", IEEE, 2002, Pgs. 471-474

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

DJD/smk